

Case of Miguel Angel Estrella

10/78

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AG 002

Miguel Angel Estrella, a world renowned Argentine concert pianist, was detained in Uruguay since December 16, 1977 allegedly for assisting Argentine Montonero terrorists. According to our Embassy, Angel Estrella's degree of implication "appears minor" (Montevideo 3010, Sec 1).

The case has elicited worldwide attention. There is a committee of artists and intellectuals in France working for his release. Among the many scientists and artists who have sent telegrams and undertaken actions on his behalf include Pierre Boulez, Jean Louis Barrault, Yehudi Menuhin, Leonard Bernstein, Andre Previn, Jean Pierre Rampal, Daniel Barenboim, Nobel Prizewinners Francois Jacob and Andre Lwoff.

Most recently, the office of the Vice President (Marilyn Haft) telephoned about the case and sent over materials mailed to Mrs. Mondale about it.

Amb. Pezzullo has recommended that the United Nations Secretary General or one of his deputies meet with the Uruguayan Foreign Minister in New York at the UN General Assembly and urge the release of Estrella (and other prisoners).

In March 1978, Amb. Pezzullo brought a letter from Yehudi Menuhin and other prominent cultural figures to the attention of the Foreign Minister of Uruguay which urged the release of Estrella. The Ambassador of the UK has also intervened in this case.

Montevideo 3101 reports that Amb. Pezzullo in September 1978 recommended to the Foreign Minister that he look into the Miguel Estrella case with a view to granting him early release.

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s): _____

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full

☐ Classify as _____ ☐ Extend as _____ ☐ Downgrade to _____

Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

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